

Seattle City Light Strategic Plan

Priority Areas, Proposed Objectives and Outcomes

Customers/Ratepayers Serving our customers well is at the center of our vision.		
PROPOSED OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED OUTCOMES	
Provide greater rate predictability	Rates should avoid price shocks	
	 Rates and budgets should reflect a steady approach over time to funding goals in the strategic plan 	
	 Increase opportunity for public input in the rate-setting process 	
Balance multiple policy goals in rate design	 Rates should be structured to balance several policy goals including: affordability; ensuring necessary cost recovery; promoting a positive business climate; promoting efficient energy use; and providing rate relief to low-income residents 	
Anticipate and exceed customer service expectations	Improve ability of customers to access and manage their accounts online	
	 Upgrade billing system to enable use of more flexible rate models (e.g., time-of-use rates, customers selecting date of their periodic bills, etc.) 	
	Resolve customer issues in one call	
Promote environmental stewardship	Maintain greenhouse gas neutrality	
	Promote efficient use of energy	
	 Continue environmental leadership and reduce environmental consequences of utility operations 	

Workforce

City Light's ability to attract and retain a high performance workforce is key to our continued success and ability to meet our customer's needs and future challenges.

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PROPOSED OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED OUTCOMES	
Ensure a safe work environment	• Decrease workforce injury rates to be below national averages for large utilities	
Attract, train, and retain a high performance workforce	 Increase Seattle City Light's ability to attract qualified candidates with electric utility expertise 	
	 Ensure that the utility has the ability to effectively manage the loss of institutional knowledge due to the significant number of upcoming retirements 	
	 Ensure that work rules and processes maximize employee efficiency and productivity 	
	 Ensure City Light leadership has the tools to effectively manage the labor management partnership 	
	 Improve workforce productivity and skills by investing in employee development and technical training 	

Assets

With billions in publicly owned assets and infrastructure, it is vital that we maintain our generation, transmission, distribution and other systems—and operate these assets in a most efficient manner.

PROPOSED OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED OUTCOMES
Provide reliable, safe, cost-effective electric service to our customers	 Increase preventative maintenance programs in transmission and distribution systems to reduce costs over time and improve reliability
	 Replace aging systems in order to increase reliability and optimize use of existing infrastructure
	 Support current and future customer needs by addressing growth in demand and reliability issues in key locations
Maintain a stable, cost effective, environmentally responsible power supply portfolio	 Make improvements to aging dams, turbines, and equipment to maximize power production capacity and reliability
	 Maintain leadership in acquisition of cost-effective conservation
	 Ensure upcoming major regional investments in the Northwest transmission system are managed to avoid power delivery bottlenecks and equitably allocate costs between City Light and other electric utilities in the region
Incorporate technology to meet future customer needs	 Continually assess customer needs and ensure appropriate, cost effective technologies are in place when needed

Municipal Enterprise Excellence
There are benefits in being publicly owned with accompanying challenges in oversight and business practices.

PROPOSED OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED OUTCOMES
Improve communication about, and support for utility's strategic priorities	 Improve ability to plan and implement long-term strategies Improve City Light's ability to manage its operations, systems and personnel to best meet the unique needs of the utility and our customers
Implement best practices in business processes and technology across the utility	 Ensure City Light is performing at high levels of effectiveness and efficiency in all areas
	• Provide tools to help employees perform their jobs efficiently and effectively
	 Identify and eliminate waste and inefficiency
	 Promote use of performance metrics throughout the organization
	 Reaffirm support for a culture of continuous improvement
	 Improve procurement processes to reduce costs and increase operating efficiency and service levels
Ensure fiscal strength	Maintain sound fiscal policies to reduce cost of borrowing
	 Keep rates at responsible levels to support needs of utility and ratepayers
	Enhance ability to meet utility's long-term investment needs